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Establishment of State statistics of Kazakhstan



Statistics of Kazakhstan have their roots in the distant past. There is historical evidence of statistical information about the first Kazakh state, the Kazakh Khanate. At the beginning of its formation (1459), the population in the valleys of the Shu and Talas rivers (in the territory of the present Zhambyl region) was 200 thousand people, and by the end of the XV century it reached 1 million people.

However, the emergence of official statistics on the territory of modern Kazakhstan dates back to the second half of the 18th century, i.e. to the period when Kazakhstan joined the Russian Empire.

The first official state statistical body established on the territory of Kazakhstan was the Turkestan Provincial Statistical Committee (date of formation – January 22, 1868) and its subordinate statistical bureaus in the Syr Darya and Semirechye regions. In the mid-70s of the 19th century, the Ural Regional Statistical Committee was organized, in 1877 – Semipalatinsk and Akmola (in Omsk) and in 1895 the Turgai regional statistical committees. However, until 1920, there was no single statistical body in Kazakhstan that unites territorial statistical services.



Kazakh enlighteners and their contribution to the development of statistics

With the establishment of the Kazakh Autonomous Socialist Soviet Republic (Kazakh ASSR) as part of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) on August 26, 1920, the Government of the Kazakh ASSR, by its resolution of November 8, 1920, approved the "Regulation on state statistics in the Kazakh ASSR" and established the statistical office of the Kazakh ASSR.

КАЗАК ССР ЖОҒАРҒЫ СОВЕТІ ПРЕЗИДИУМЫНЫН **УКАЗЫ** УКАЗ ПРЕЗИДИУМА ВЕРХОВНОГО СОВЕТА КАЗАХСКОЙ ССР О прообразовании Статистического управления Казакской ССР в Неит-ральное статистическое управление пли Совете Канистров Казакской СС Президжум Верховного Севети Казахской ССР ПОСТАНОВЛЕСТ: Пособохновать Стотистическое управление Казахской ССР в Неитральное статистическое управление при Совете Кимистров Казахской ССР. личатродседатель в Верхозного Совета - 6. KAPWINGHOS. инуми Веркозного Совета Ами-Ата Лон Предительства 16 Quapara 1960 r.

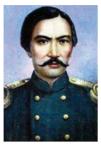
In 1923, pursuant to a resolution of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, the Central Statistical Office under the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR (CSO of the USSR) was established, functioning with the status of a people's commissariat. The CSO of the USSR was entrusted with the organizational and methodological guidance of statistical accounting across the country. Thus, the establishment of the CSO of the USSR marked the beginning of a unified methodology and organization of statistical accounting and reporting throughout the Soviet Union.

On February 16, 1960, the Statistical office of the Kazakh SSR was transformed into the Central Statistical Office under the Council of Ministers of the Kazakh SSR (CSO of the Kazakh SSR), which became a union-republican body with dual subordination—to both the Government of the Republic and the CSO of the USSR.

On March 1, 1991, the State Committee on Statistics of the Kazakh SSR was reorganized into the State Committee on Statistics and Analysis of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Kazakh enlighteners and their contribution to the development of statistics









Did you know that many famous Kazakh figures of the 19th and 20th centuries collected and analyzed data, thereby contributing to the development of statistics? Notable examples include:

Abai Kunanbayev, a poet and thinker, was a participant in the first census of Semipalatinsk in 1882. He was a full member of the Semipalatinsk

Statistical Committee.

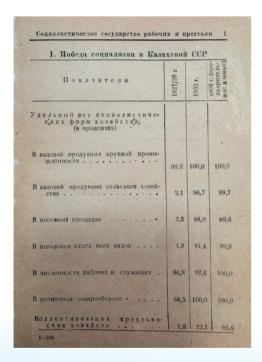
Shokan Ualikhanov – his scientific works "Notes on the Kyrgyz", "Essays on Dzungaria" and others contain a wealth of statistical data on the social and living conditions of Kazakhs and other peoples of the region.

Ybyray Altynsarin – in his official documents, letters and pedagogical works, you can find detailed records of schools, the number of students, information on the condition of families and the distribution of land in Turgai county.

Alikhan Bokeikhan – graduated as a forestry specialist with a focus on statistics. He participated in statistical work on the Tobolsk province and F. A. Shcherbin's famous expeditions, studying land use and cattle breeding. In 1904, he published the work "Sheep breeding in the Steppe region" with tables, graphs and cartograms. In his works, he wrote: "On average, there were 5.75 human souls per Kazakh family (shanyrak); in the poorest families of the 8 groups, according to the degree of wealth, Kazakh families had 0.86 heads of cattle, in the richest – 34.75 heads each. Kazakh sharua (households), compared with migrant peasants, consume 2 times less bread, but 6 times more meat."



1920-1990: Kazakh statistics during the Soviet period



The period from 1920 to 1990 in Kazakhstan's history was marked by profound transformations that fundamentally reshaped the country's economic, social, and cultural structure.

These decades were filled with both large-scale development projects and dramatic challenges: collectivization, industrialization, the Great Patriotic War, post-war reconstruction, scientific and technological progress, the transition to mature socialism, and the beginning of reforms. None of these processes would have been possible to implement or assess without reliable and comprehensive official statistical information.

Starting in the mid-1960s, automation started in Kazakhstan's statistical system. The first electronic computing machines significantly accelerated the processing of large volumes of data and improved the accuracy and reliability of information. Automated systems for data collection and processing were developed, software packages were created, and specialists were trained in new technologies.

By the late 1980s, the transition from mainframe computers to personal computers had begun. The development of localized software solutions enabled more flexible data processing and allowed reporting formats to be tailored to specific tasks.

1991–2000: The first transformations of statistics after gaining independence

Picture After gaining independence in 1991, Kazakhstan began transforming its state statistical system. The transition from a planned economy to a market economy required substantial changes in the structure and methods of collecting, processing, and analyzing statistical data.

The primary objective of Kazakhstan's statistical service was the implementation of international standards and methodologies, enabling the harmonization of national statistics with global practices.

Within the framework of these efforts, Kazakhstan significantly improved the quality of statistical information, introduced new approaches to sample surveys, revised accounting and reporting methods, and learned to effectively utilize modern information technologies to automate statistical processes.

By the late 1990s, active work had also begun on the development of statistical registers, which played a key role in ensuring the completeness and accuracy of statistical data.

A major milestone in the development of statistics was the introduction of product and service accounting by type of activity in accordance with the National Classifier of Economic Activities, harmonized with the European NACE classification. This ensured international comparability of data.



	1991	1995	2000
Population at the end of the period (year), thousands of people	16 451.7	15 675.8	14 865.6
Employed population, thousand people	7 716.2	6 551.5	6 201.0
Unemployment rate, in percent	-	11.0	12.8
The average monthly nominal salary of one employee, tenge1)	128 ²⁾	4 786	14 374
Average assigned monthly pension, tenge ³⁾	187	1 876	4 298
Consumer price index			
(at the end of the period, as a percentage of December of the previous year)	247.1	160.3	109.8
Gross Domestic Product by method of production, million tenge	29 423.1 ²⁾	1 014 190.0	2 599 901.6
Gross Domestic Product by method of production per capita, tenge	1 796.22)	64 123.3	174 682.0
Investments in fixed assets, million tenge	47	223 042	595 664
Volume of industrial production (goods, services), million tenge	172	694 603	1 799 344
Gross output of agricultural products (services), million tenge	77.8	208 919.2	404 145.9
Volume of completed construction works (services), million tenge	18	77 624	151 427
Total area of commissioned residential buildings, thousand square meters of total area	6 130	1 663	1 218
Volume of communication services, million tenge	222.12)	15 834.5	63 665.6
Volume of retail trade in value terms, million tenge	35 033.0	150 855.8	570 446.0
Turnover in foreign currency (foreign trade turnover), million US dollars	1 958.14)	9 056.9	13 852.2
The average annual exchange rate of the US dollar, tenge ⁵⁾	-	60.95	142,13

¹⁾ Excluding small enterprises engaged in entrepreneurial activities.

²⁾ 1993.

³⁾ According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

^{4) 1992.}

⁵⁾ According to the data of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

2001-2010: Innovations in Kazakhstan's statistical system: reforms and new approaches

The period from 2001 to 2010 marked a time of profound transformation of Kazakhstan's national statistical system, aimed at its full modernization in line with international standards and the demands of a rapidly evolving economy.

One of the key areas of reform was the implementation of the System of National Accounts (SNA 2008), the international standard. This step was a response to global economic shifts and the growing need for more accurate tools to measure economic activity, including issues of globalization, financial innovation, and the digital economy.

The active use of administrative data sources expanded, the practice of sample surveys broadened, and cooperation with other government agencies intensified—particularly in areas related to macroeconomic modeling and forecasting.

To ensure the quality and objectivity of statistical information on the state of agriculture, the First National Agricultural Census was conducted in 2005–2006.

In 2010, a new Law on State Statistics was adopted, which incorporated the core provisions of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations, clarified definitions, and specified the rights and responsibilities of participants in the statistical system as well as of respondents.



	2001	2005	2010
Population at the end of the period (year), thousand persons	14 851.1	15 219.3	16 440.5
Employed population, thousand persons	6 698.8	7 261.0	8 114.2
Unemployment rate, in percent	10.4	8.1	5.8
The average monthly nominal wage of one employee, tenge ¹⁾	17 303	34 060	77 611
Average assigned monthly pension, tenge ²⁾	4 947	9 061	21 238
Consumer price index			
(at the end of the period, as a percentage of December of the previous year)	106.4	107.5	107.8
Gross Domestic Product by method of production, million tenge	3 250 593.3	7 590 593.5	21 815 517.0
Gross Domestic Product by method of production per capita, tenge	218 772.4	501 127.5	1 336 605.6
Investments in fixed assets, million tenge	943 398	2 420 976	4 653 528
Volume of industrial production (goods, services), million tenge	1 997 384	5 281 085	12 105 526
Gross agricultural output (including services), million tenge	535 124.0	749 077.8	1 822 074.1
Volume of completed construction works (services), million tenge	254 586	1 069 505	1 943 960
Total area of commissioned residential buildings, thousand square meters of total area	1 506	4 992	6 409
Volume of communication services, million tenge	85 887.8	215 148.0	479 905.3
Volume of retail trade in value terms, million tenge	719 550.0	1 408 697.8	3 197 147.8
Turnover in foreign currency (foreign trade turnover), million US dollars	15 085.1	45 201.2	91 397.5
The average annual exchange rate of the US dollar, tenge ³⁾	146.74	132.88	147.35

¹⁾ Excluding small enterprises engaged in entrepreneurial activities.

²⁾ According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

³⁾ According to the data of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

2011-2020: Automation of statistical processes

The period from 2011 to 2020 marked an important stage in the development of Kazakhstan's modern statistical system.

As part of the implementation of the national system strengthening project "KAZSTAT," a large-scale revision of national methodology was carried out in accordance with international standards across key areas — from the System of National Accounts to statistics on prices, employment, investment, science, transport, trade, construction, agriculture, and tourism.

Significant attention was given to improving statistical tools. Alternative methods of data collection, particularly telephone surveys, were piloted, which enhanced timeliness and expanded survey coverage.

Infrastructure modernization was accompanied by the digitalization of processes. In 2012, the active implementation of the Integrated Information System "e-Statistics" began, uniting the collection, processing, storage, and dissemination of data into a single digital framework. By 2015, the "e-Statistics" IIS had become a universal platform that enabled automation across all stages of statistical production — from classifications and metadata to the collection of administrative and primary data, as well as their processing and dissemination. The Information and Analytical System "Taldau" was put into industrial operation, providing users with interactive access to over 3,500 statistical indicators, including retrospective data starting from 2000.





	2011	2015	2020
Population at the end of the period (year), thousand persons	16 673.9	17 669.9	18 879.0
Employed population, thousand persons	8 301.6	8 433.3	8 732.0
Unemployment rate, in percent	5.4	5.1	4.9
The average monthly nominal wage of one employee, tenge1)	90 028	126 021	213 003
Average assigned monthly pension, tenge ²⁾	27 338	38 933	63 937
Consumer price index			
(at the end of the period, as a percentage of December of the previous year)	107.4	113.6	107.5
Gross Domestic Product by method of production, million tenge	28 243 052.7	40 884 133.6	70 649 033.2
Gross Domestic Product by method of production per capita, tenge	1 705 848.6	2 330 360.2	3 766 810.2
Investments in fixed assets, million tenge	5 010 231	7 024 709	12 270 144
Volume of industrial production (goods, services), million tenge	15 929 052	14 931 378	27 028 506
Gross agricultural output (including services), million tenge	2 720 453.4	3 307 009.6	6 334 668.8
Volume of completed construction works (services), million tenge	2 085 137	2 896 877	4 934 069
Total area of commissioned residential buildings, thousand square meters of total area	6 531	8 940	15 332
Volume of communication services, million tenge	582 740.4	702 148.0	926 626.1
Volume of retail trade in value terms, million tenge	3 865 840.6	6 555 820.9	11 729 949.7
Turnover in foreign currency (foreign trade turnover), million US dollars	121 241.7	76 523.5	86 469.9
The average annual exchange rate of the US dollar, tenge ³⁾	146.62	221.73	412.95

¹⁾ Excluding small enterprises engaged in entrepreneurial activities.

²⁾ According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

³⁾ According to the data of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

2021-2025: State Statistics of Kazakhstan today



In recent years, Kazakhstan has been actively moving towards modernizing its statistical system, introducing advanced methods such as satellite imagery, digitalization of data collection and the use of alternative sources, significantly improving the accuracy and efficiency of statistical information necessary for effective decision-making in the field of public policy.

As part of the ongoing reforms, relevant amendments have been made to legislation in the field of state statistics.

The Statistical Work Plan for 2025-2027 has been approved, with inclusion of alternative data sources.

An audit of the reporting forms and indicators of government agencies has been carried out. As a result, a Unified Reporting Register was approved, containing 1.5 thousand forms and a single directory consisting of 13 thousand administrative indicators.

A digital service «National Reference Information» has been developed, which makes it possible to structure classifiers and reference books used in government databases within a single system.

Work is underway to build a system of digital statistical registers, which will be updated based on administrative data coming from the information systems of government agencies.

Work is underway on the transition from the traditional form of statistical observation to the use of administrative and alternative sources of information. In order to improve the quality of administrative data, the Institute of Data Controllers has been established.

The second national agricultural census was held in 2025. For the first time, the census was conducted in digital format, using innovative data collection methods.

In order to maintain constant feedback from users and respondents, a single contact center of Bureau «1446» has been launched, capable of processing up to 500 requests per day with a high level of user satisfaction.



	2021	2022	2023	2024
Population at the end of the period (year), thousand persons	19 503.2	19 766.8	20 033.8	20 283.4
Employed population, thousand persons	8 807.1	8 971.5	9 081.9	9 214.2
Unemployment rate, in percent	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.7
The average monthly nominal wage of one employee, tenge ¹⁾	250 311	309 697	364 295	405 416
Average assigned monthly pension, tenge ²⁾	67 432	73 902	81 277	87 132
Consumer price index (at the end of the period, as a percentage of				
December of the previous year)	108.4	120.3	109.8	108.6
Gross Domestic Product by method of production, million tenge	83 951 587.9	103 765 518.2	119 442 289.7	136 693 318.3
Gross Domestic Product by method of production per capita, tenge	4 418 275.1	5 284 726.7	6 002 027.1	6 780 886.4
Investments in fixed assets, million tenge	13 242 233	15 251 104	17 649 313	19 461 333
Volume of industrial production (goods, services), million tenge	37 606 243	48 777 089	46 991 787	51 469 084
Gross agricultural output (including services), million tenge	7 515 433.5	9 481 179.8	7 576 533.7	8 310 982.6
Volume of completed construction works (services), million tenge	5 530 681	6 304 274	7 612 810	9 062 097
Total area of commissioned residential buildings, thousand square				
meters of total area	16 910	15 667	17 827	19 124
Volume of communication services, million tenge	1 041 324.9	1 121 084.0	1 233 940.5	1 404 320.1
Volume of retail trade in value terms, million tenge	13 709 321.6	16 748 110.3	19 959 173.8	23 558 796,6
Turnover in foreign currency (foreign trade turnover), million US dollars	101 736.4	135 527.4	139 551.0	142 072,0
The average annual exchange rate of the US dollar, tenge ³⁾	426.03	460.48	456.31	469.44

¹⁾ Excluding small enterprises engaged in entrepreneurial activities.

²⁾ According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

³⁾ According to the data of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Prospects for the Development of State Statistics in Kazakhstan



The central vector of development of Kazakhstan's statistical system for the next five years will be the further digitalization of the entire statistical production process, meeting modern information technologies and providing an integrated approach to the collection, storage, integration and analysis of all statistical information.

An important focus is the development of digital solutions and platforms that ensure the transparency, accessibility, and accuracy of statistical information, particularly in the context of forecasting and modeling. Equally

important is the expansion of cooperation with administrative and alternative data sources to obtain more accurate information. Kazakhstan continues to enhance its data collection and analysis system, aligning it with international standards and methodologies.

It is planned to implement an architecture based on open source solutions for big data processing. This will speed up data processing based on parallel computing and use big data in the production of statistics.

It is planned to restart the primary statistical and administrative data processing system, and migrate statistical, administrative, and alternative data to the central data warehouse.

Analytical solutions will be implemented based on primary statistical data and data from state information systems and government databases. The Center for Behavioral Economics and Big Data Analysis, which conducts research using artificial intelligence and big data on current socio-economic topics, plans to launch new cases in behavioral economics and consumer pattern analysis based on banking data and fiscal receipts.



International statistical cooperation

The Bureau's priorities in the field of international cooperation are to increase the capacity of the national statistical system and ensure its compliance with international standards and best practices; exchange experience with other countries; ensure international comparability of data; and promote the development of statistical concepts and methodology.

Since 2023, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has been reviewing Kazakhstan's national statistical system, helping to strengthen its compliance with international statistical standards among OECD member countries.

According to the preliminary results of this Review, OECD experts highly appreciated the level of development of Kazakhstan's statistics and by the Decision of the OECD Council dated July 22, 2025, Kazakhstan was the first CIS country to join the first OECD legal instrument in the field of statistics – the Recommendations of the OECD Council on Good Statistical Practice. This step will allow the Bureau to join the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy of the OECD as an Associate Member, currently the Bureau is a member of this Committee.

In 2023, experts from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), together with the OECD, Eurostat and the European Free Trade Association, conducted another round of Global Assessment of the national statistical system of Kazakhstan. Based on the results of the assessment, recommendations were received and further steps were identified, and an Action Plan was approved to implement the recommendations of the Global Assessment of the National Statistical System of Kazakhstan for 2023-2026.

In addition, Kazakhstan participates in various projects of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), the UK Office for National Statistics (ONS), the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the US Department of Agriculture (NASS).

The Bureau is always open to expanding cooperation with international organizations and national statistical offices, thanks to which experience is exchanged and national statistical capacity is growing.

Heads of State Statistics

1920-1926	I.P. Krutilin	1967-1980	Z.P. Trotsenko	
1926-1928	D.A. Deikhman	1980-1994	T.Zh. Zhumassultanov	
1928-1929	D.G. Divnegortsev	1994-1997	V.I. Goryachkovsky	
1929-1930	I.N. Chudnovsky	1997-1999	Zh.A. Kulekeev	
1931-1937	M.S. Samatov	1999-2003	A.A. Smailov	
1937-1938	I.P. Teitelbaum	2003-2006	K.S. Abdiev	
1938-1941	P.M. Dunaev	2006-2007	B.T. Sultanov	
1941-1943	K. Yermekov	2007-2009	A.E. Meshimbayeva	
1943-1944	I.K. Kalmykov	2009-2015	A.A. Smailov	
1944-1953	T.V. Volkov	2016-2022	N.S. Aidapkelov	
1953-1960	T.U. Uvashev	2022-2023	Zh.N. Shaimardanov	
1960-1967	A.L. Chasovnikova	Since 2023	M.K. Turlubayev	



105 years of State Statistics of Kazakhstan / Astana 2025

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More detailed information on the history of the development of state statistics in Kazakhstan can be found in the book "105 Years of State Statistics of Kazakhstan."

The electronic version of the book "105 Years of State Statistics of Kazakhstan" is available on the website of the Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan: http://stat.gov.kz.



